

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Paul Gurzo on behalf of Mr. David Hill on 12/05/2008.

3. The application has been amended as follows

Please cancel claims 2 and 7.

Claim 1. An information processing apparatus for executing an access control process comprising:

a memory section for storing a MAC address table in which one or more manually registered client MAC addresses and one or more automatically registered client MAC addresses are registered in forms to distinguish each other;

an access control section for executing different access control processes, in response to an access request from a client, in accordance with an access control mode set in the information processing apparatus, wherein the access

control mode is an automatic registration access control mode or a manually registered device access control mode; and

a registration processing section for executing a setting change process for changing an entry of the one or more automatically registered client MAC addresses to an entry of the one or more manually registered client MAC addresses in the MAC address table, wherein

the access control section has a structure in that:

if the access control mode is set as the automatic registration access control mode, one or more MAC addresses of an access requesting client are registered until the number of MAC addresses reaches a defined limit number of registration and the access control process is executed under the a condition of the registration process; and-

if the access control mode is set as the manually registered device access control mode, the access control process is executed under the condition that the one or more MAC addresses of the access requesting client are registered in the MAC address table as one or more manually registered MAC addresses; and

if the access control mode is set as the automatic registration access control mode, the access control section identifies the type of access request from the client and registers the one or more MAC addresses of the client up to the defined limit number of registration only in the case where the type of the identified access request corresponds to the type of access request to which

access control should be executed, and executes the access control process for allowing access from the client under the condition of the registration process.

Claim 6. An access control processing method in an information processing apparatus comprising:

an access request receiving step of receiving an access request from a client;

a mode determining step of determining an access control mode set in the information processing apparatus is an automatic registration access control mode or a manually registered device access control mode;

an access control step of executing an access control process for registering one or more MAC addresses of an access requesting client up to a defined limit number of registration and for allowing access of said client under the a condition of the registration process, if the set access control mode is the automatic registration access control mode; and of executing an access control process for allowing access of the client under the condition that the one or more MAC addresses of access requesting client are registered in the MAC address table as one or more manually registered MAC addresses if the set access control mode is the manually registered device access control mode; and

a registration processing step of executing a setting change process for changing an entry of the one or more automatically registered client MAC

addresses to an entry of the one or more manually registered client MAC addresses in the MAC address table; and

in the access control step, if the access control mode is set as the automatic registration access control mode, the type of access request from the client is identified, the one or more MAC addresses of the client up to the defined limit number of registration are registered only in the case where the type of the identified access request corresponds to the type of access request to which a predefined access control should be executed, and a process for allowing access of the client is executed under the condition of the registration process.

Claim 11. A computer program, tangible embodied in the computer-readable storage medium, for executing an access control process in an information processing apparatus comprising:

a mode determining step of determining an access control mode set in the information processing apparatus is an automatic registration access mode or a manually registered device access control mode;

an access control step of executing an access control process for registering one or more MAC addresses of an access requesting client up to a defined limit number of registration if a set access control mode is the automatic registration access control mode, and for allowing the access of said client under the a condition of the registration process; and of executing an access control process for allowing the access of the client under the condition that the one or

more MAC addresses of the access requesting client are registered in the MAC address table as one or more manually registered MAC addresses, if the set access control mode is the registered device access control mode; and

a registration processing step of executing a setting change process for changing an entry of the one or more automatically registered client MAC addresses to an entry of the one or more manually registered client MAC addresses in the MAC address table; and

in the access control step, if the access control mode is set as the automatic registration access control mode, the type of access request from the client is identified, the one or more MAC addresses of the client up to the defined limit number of registration are registered only in the case where the type of the identified access request corresponds to the type of access request to which a predefined access control should be executed, and a process for allowing access of the client is executed under the condition of the registration process.

4. Claims 1, 3-6 and 8-11 are allowed.

The following is the examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art does not disclose a registration processing section for executing a setting change process for changing an entry of the one or more automatically registered client MAC addresses to an entry of the one or more manually registered

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client MAC addresses in the MAC address table and that a process for allowing access of the client is executed under the condition of the registration process.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MADHU KHANNA whose telephone number is (571)270-3629. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 8:30-6.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Follansbee can be reached on 571-272-3964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/M. K./
Examiner, Art Unit 2451

/John Follansbee/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2451